



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Daniel Boone National Forest 2020 Recreation Fee Program Highlights



Photo by Scott Ray, Daniel Boone National Forest 2020 Unity Day Photo Contest

Bee Rock Campground Flood Restoration

During the spring of 2019, the London Ranger District experienced an historic flooding event on the Cumberland and Rockcastle Rivers.

The Bee Rock Campground, located on the Rockcastle River, was impacted particularly hard by the flooding. The area was inundated with high water for approximately one month, resulting in a tremendous amount of damage to the facility.

The campground has remained closed since the initial flood event. All of the roadways, campsites, trails, and boat ramp were damaged by the flood water and debris. The closure of this 28-site facility resulted in a loss of opportunity for hikers, bikers, campers, motorized and non-motorized users of the Rockcastle River.

An American Conservation Experience (ACE) Crew, working closely under the guidance and assistance of Forest Service staff, were able to rehabilitate nine campsites in 2020. Due to the severity of the flood damage, each site had to be demolished and reconstructed. The crew's work efforts consisted of tearing out and removing all existing features of the campsites. Campsites were then reconstructed, and new amenities installed. In total; 100+ wooden steps, 8 stone/tri-lock pathways, and 15 picnic tables were constructed; 10 ADA fire rings, 18 lantern poles, and 6 bear-proof food storage containers were installed.



Bee Rock Campground – Rehabilitated campsite. Forest Service photo.

In 2020, \$40,000 in Recreation Fee revenue, \$15,000 in appropriations, and \$31,000 in Recreation Trails Program (RTP) grant contributions (\$86,000 total) were spent on the project. This has allowed approximately 30% of the campsites to be restored.

The project will continue to completion into 2021 with an anticipated \$120,000 coming from The Great American Outdoors Act, supplemented by \$345,000 in Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO) funds, as well as some additional Recreation Fee dollars.



Sky Bridge Picnic Area – Rehabilitated picnic site. Forest Service photo.

Sky Bridge Picnic Area Restoration

In October of 2020 the Cumberland Ranger District Recreation staff and an American Conservation Experience crew collaborated to rehabilitate the Sky Bridge Picnic Area located in the Red River Gorge of the Daniel Boone National Forest.

The project corrected deferred maintenance to seven picnic sites. Border timbers were removed and replaced, and new gravel installed. These improvements will mitigate tripping hazards, improve accessibility, and enhance the aesthetics of the picnic area.

All materials for the project were funded through Recreation Fee revenue totaling \$1,500. Anticipated Great American Outdoors Act funding in 2021 will allow for the replacement of all picnic tables at the Sky Bridge Picnic Area.



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Grove Rehabilitation

Over the years, the restroom facility at Grove Boat Ramp had fallen in a state of disrepair and was in dire need of repairs and upgrades.

In 2020, Forest Service staff completed a rehabilitation project on this facility. These repairs and improvements now provide visitors a safe and up-to-date facility.

Specifically, the project allowed the roof to be removed and new sheathing and shingles were installed. All exterior siding material was replaced and repainted. The interior and exterior block walls were sealed and painted. All interior surfaces of the structure were repainted, lights replaced or repaired, and plumbing fixtures were brought to standard. New exterior solar LED lights were installed to protect the infrastructure and provide lighting for visitors at night. New skylights were installed to reduce the need for interior lighting during daylight hours.

In addition, a new fish cleaning table was constructed and installed in this area.

The facility is now in great condition, more energy efficient, and will require less maintenance in the future.

The project utilized \$8,000 in Recreation Fee revenue supplemented by \$16,500 in allocated appropriations.



Grove Restroom Facility – Rehabilitated. Forest Service photo.



Natural Arch on Stearns District. Photo by Ginelle Heller, 2020 Daniel Boone Unity Day Photo Contest Winner.

Additional Accomplishments

- Increased cleaning and sanitation to address COVID-19 concerns
- Increased Forest Protection Officer presence due to increased visitation related to COVID-19
- Reconstructed existing berms and added one new berm at Keno Shooting Range
- Replaced 25+ fire rings
- Constructed and installed 50+ picnic tables
- Replaced 65+ directional, portal, and recreation signs
- Repaired/patched asphalt on boat ramps
- Restriped parking areas, crosswalks, and boat ramps.
- Installed 5 LED streetlights at fee boat ramps on Laurel Lake
- Completed Rehabilitation of Appletree Shooting Range
- Hazard tree removal and abatement
- Repaired and replaced courtesy docks on Laurel Lake
- Cleaned up multiple trash dumps
- Improved parking at Martins Fork Trailhead and Bison Way

Recreation Fee Program Contact



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Bee Rock Campground – ACE Crew. Forest Service photo.



Sky Bridge Picnic Area work crew. Forest Service photo.



Bee Rock Campground Forest Service Crew. Forest Service photo.



Grove Restroom Facility - Before. Forest Service photo.



Sky Bridge Picnic Area – Before. Forest Service photo.



Tree removal at Natural Arch. Forest Service photo.